

**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**Announcement Number: 009 09**

**OPEN TO:** *All Interested Applicants*

**POSITION TITLE:** **Federal Benefits Claims Examiner**  
\*FSN-9, FP-5 (full performance)  
\*FSN-8, FP-6 (trainee level)  
\*FSN-7, FP-7 (trainee level)

**OPENING DATE:** February 9, 2009

**CLOSING DATE:** **February 23, 2009**

**WORK HOURS:** Full-time work week schedule; 40 hours/week

**SALARY:** \*Actual grade and salary will be based on the  
Qualifications of the applicant:

Non-Ordinary Resident (NOR):

Position grade: FP-5, U.S. \$42,314 p.a.

Position grade: FP-6, U.S. \$37,828 p.a.

Position grade: FP-7, U.S. \$33,817p.a.

Ordinary Resident (OR):

Position grade: FSN-9 Euro 23,424 p.a.

Position grade: FSN-8 Euro 20,701 p.a.

Position grade: FSN-7 Euro 17,961 p.a.

**NOTE: ALL APPLICANTS WHO ARE NOT THE FAMILY MEMBERS OF USG EMPLOYEES OFFICIALLY ASSIGNED TO POST AND UNDER CHIEF OF MISSION AUTHORITY MUST HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND/OR RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION.**

Mission employees may not apply for vacant position during probationary period.

- The U.S. Embassy in Athens is seeking an individual **with the required residency/work permits** for the position of **Federal Benefits Claims Examiner in the Federal Benefits Office in Athens, Greece.**

### **BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION**

This is the expert level for Federal Benefits Claims Representatives who are responsible for developing and processing the full range of the most difficult, complex and responsible federal benefits related claims work which frequently requires comprehensive investigations to determine initial and continuing benefit eligibility. The incumbent prepares and submits complete and authoritative final adjudication packages to the Social Security Administration (SSA) for final action. Although the most extensive federal benefits program involves SSA benefits and services, the incumbent is also responsible for any claims work involving the benefit programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) AND THE Department of Labor (DOL).

### **QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED**

NOTE: All applicants are instructed to address each selection criterion detailed below with specific and comprehensive information supporting each criterion.

- **Education**: Completion of high school (six years) **is required.**
- **Language**: English language level IV (fluent) s/w/r **is required.**
- **Language**: Greek language level IV (fluent) s/w/r **is required.**
- **Experience**:
- **FSN-9 (full performance)**: Three years of experience in work involving the application of complex regulatory material along with extensive public contact or other closely related experience **is required.**
- **FSN-8 (trainee level)**: Two years of experience in work involving the application of complex regulatory material along with extensive public contact or other closely related experience **is required.**
- **FSN-7 (trainee level)**: One years of experience in work involving the application of complex regulatory material along with extensive public contact or other closely related experience **is required.**
- **Knowledge**: Understanding of how to apply a complex body of laws, regulations, precedents and procedures in making eligibility determinations. Knowledge of host country laws relating to marriage, divorce, estate and inheritance, adoption, legitimization, social insurance and banking provisions. Knowledge of investigative processes and procedures. Knowledge of Microsoft Office and database **are required.**
- **Skills and Abilities**: Ability to **a) analyze problems to identify significant factors, gather pertinent data and recognize solutions b) plan and organize**

work; and communicate effectively orally and in writing **c)** develop and maintain a wide variety of outside contacts, especially incident to field investigation work, such as with Embassy staff, local registrars and other local government officials **d)** use tact and sound judgment in dealing with the public **e)** work and make decisions independently and **f)** use computer technology and software develop and maintain extensive high level contacts in cultural, governmental and educational circles **g)** plan, arrange, manage and execute extensive thematic exchange programs, and other cultural programs **h)** develop materials and reports in English and Greek. Sound intellectual, professional, and political judgment to render advice and guidance with detachment and objectivity **are required.**

### **SELECTION PROCESS**

When equally qualified, U.S. Citizen Eligible Family Members (AEFMs) and U.S. Veterans will be given preference. Therefore, it is essential that all candidates address the required qualifications above in the application.

### **ADDITIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA**

1. Management will consider nepotism/conflict of interest, budget, and residency status in determining successful candidacy.
2. Currently employed US Citizen EFM's who hold a FMA appointment are ineligible to apply for advertised position within the first 90 calendar days of their employment.
3. Currently employed NORs hired under Personal Services Agreement (PSA) are ineligible to apply for advertised positions within the first 90 calendar days of their employment, unless currently hired into a position with a When Actually Employed (WAE) work schedule.
4. Currently employed FSNs and US Citizens under Personal Services Agreement (PSA) serving a probationary period are not eligible to apply.
5. Greek National employees who have not completed their regular military service are not considered for employment with the American Embassy.

### **HOW TO APPLY**

Interested candidates for this position must submit the following or the application will not be considered:

1. A current resume or curriculum vitae; or
2. Application for Federal Employment (OF-612)
3. Candidates who claim U.S. Veterans preference must provide a copy of their Form DD-124 with their application.

4. Any other documentation (e.g., essays, certificates, awards, copies of degrees earned) that addresses the qualifications requirements of the position as listed above.

### **JOB INFORMATION**

In order to apply for vacancies *all* applicants *must* provide the information outlined below:

1. Announcement number.
2. Title and grade of the position for which you are applying.

### **PERSONAL AND EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION**

1. Full name, mailing address and day phone numbers, including area code.
2. Social Security Number (if applicant is a U.S. citizen).
3. Country of citizenship.
4. Veterans' preference (proof of eligibility required).
5. Name, city and state of last high school attended and date of diploma.
6. Name and state of colleges and universities attended, major fields of study, type and year of any degrees received.

### **WORK EXPERIENCE AND OTHER QUALIFICATIONS**

In addition, applicants *must* provide information on their work experience, both paid and non-paid, that is *related* to the position for which they are applying, including:

1. Job title.
2. Duties and accomplishments.
3. Employer's name and address.
4. Supervisor's name and telephone number (indicate if we may contact your current supervisor).
5. Starting and ending dates of employment (month and year).
6. Hours worked per week.
7. Salary.
8. Any other qualifications, including job-related: training (title and date of course); skills (e.g., languages, typing speed, tools, machinery, computer software/hardware); current licenses; or honors, awards and special accomplishments (e.g. honor societies, publications).

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

All applicants must submit information that addresses the required qualifications. **Applications which are incomplete will not be considered.**

## **WHERE TO APPLY**

**You may hand deliver your application/resume to the Reception area of the Embassy by 5 p.m. on the closing date, or FAX, mail or e-mail it at [recruitmentath@state.gov](mailto:recruitmentath@state.gov).**

All applicants will be notified in writing of the results of the consideration given their application approximately 6 to 8 weeks after the closing date of the announcement.

## **SUBMIT APPLICATION TO**

Human Resources Office  
American Embassy  
10160 Athens

## **POINT OF CONTACT**

Georgia Papadimatou  
Telephone: 210-720-2238  
FAX: 210-720-2197

## **DEFINITIONS**

1. **AEFM:** A type of EFM that is eligible for direct hire employment on either a Family Member Appointment (FMA) or Temporary Appointment (TEMP) provided s/he meets all of the following criteria:
  - US citizen;
  - Spouse or dependent who is at least age 18; Listed on the travel orders of a Foreign or Civil Service or uniformed service member permanently assigned to or stationed at a US Foreign Service post or establishment abroad with a USG agency that is under COM authority;
  - Is resident at the sponsoring employee's or uniform service member's post of assignment abroad, approved safehaven abroad, or alternate safehaven abroad; and
  - Does not receive a USG annuity or pension based on a career in the US Civil, Foreign, or uniform services.
2. **Eligible Family Members (EFMs):** Family Members at least age 18 listed on the travel orders of a Foreign or Civil Service or uniformed service member permanently assigned to or stationed to a U.S Foreign Service post or establishment abroad with a USG agency that is under Chief of Mission authority who do not meet the definition of AEFM above.

3. **Members of Household (MOH):** A MOH is a person who: 1) Has accompanied, but is not on the travel orders of a U.S. citizen Foreign or Civil Service employee or uniform service member permanently assigned to or stationed at a U.S. Foreign service post or establishment abroad; 2) Has been declared by the sponsoring employee to the Chief of Mission as part of his/her household; and 3) Resides at post with the sponsoring employee.
4. **Ordinarily Resident (OR):** A citizen of the host country or a citizen of another country who has shifted the main residency focus to the host country and has the required work and/or residency permits for employment in country.
5. **Not-Ordinarily Resident (NOR):** Typically NORs are US Citizen EFMs and EFMs of FS, GS, and uniform service members who are eligible for employment under an American USG pay plan, on the travel orders and under Chief of Mission authority, or other personnel having diplomatic privileges and immunities.

**CLOSING DATE FOR THIS POSITION: February 23, 2009**

The US Mission in Greece provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation. The Department of State also strives to achieve equal employment opportunity in all personnel operations through continuing diversity enhancement programs.

The EEO complaint procedure is not available to individuals who believe they have been denied equal opportunity based upon marital status or political affiliation. Individuals with such complaints should avail themselves of the appropriate grievance procedures, remedies for prohibited personnel practices, and/or courts for relief.